

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent Application No. 09/777,954

Applicant: MINAMIDE et al.

Filed: February 7, 2001

TC/AU: 2192

Examiner: E. Kiss

Docket No.: 401073

Customer No.: 23548

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated October 13, 2006, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.